



Manifesto of the Workers Party OF CANADA ON THE

Immediate Problems of Canadian Labor

Working Men and Women:

The Second Convention of the Workers' Party has recorded another advance for the militant wing of Canadian Labor. Last year for the first time since the Government's suppressions, the scattered militants of East and West were welded into a united Party. This year this Party could point to an organization extending from Halifax to Vancouver which had its roots imbedded deeply in the masses.

A Party of the Workers !

The Workers' Party has made warm friends among the workers of this country. The miners of Nova Scotia or of District 18 in Alberta, who have been waging a passionate struggle against the exploitation of capital, will tell you that the Workers' Party has taken an uncompromising stand for Labor in every one of these struggles; that it is the only Party in the country unafraid to break with the lying shibboleths of "democracy"—the capitalist fancy name for the exploitation of Labor. The militants in the Trade Unions will tell you that the Workers' Party is the only party unafraid to take up the work of supporting the reorganization of the Trade Union Movement along the lines of amalgamation—the only party that will grapple with the industrial as well as the political problems of the workers.

Against Capitalism !

But if the Party has won the support of the workers it has also aroused the enmity of the capitalists and their servants in the labor movement. Ask the labor bureaucrat who is afraid that a progressive movement will take his "job" away from him, ask the yellow labor politician who hopes for a soft seat in the Legislature, ask the Government officials whose business it is to spy on us, ask the employers what **THEY** think of the Workers' Party and a unanimous chorus of hate will rise unto Heaven! "The Workers' Party is a party of 'Reds.' " In other words the Workers' Party is a Communist Party.

For a Republic of Workers and Farmers!

Why has it roused the hostility of the business interests that exploit the workers and the poor farmers alike? Because of Workers' Party stands uncompromisingly for the class struggle against capitalism. We stand for an alliance of the workers and the working farmers that will carry on an uncompromising struggle to break the power of capitalism, of its Manufacturers' Associations, its Banks, Loan Companies, Government, Press and other instrumentalities. We stand for the establishment of such a Labor-Farmer Government as will carry out a program of the socialization of industry under worker's control and will give the working farmer the just product of his toil. We stand for such a Labor-Farmer Government as will lay the basis for a Canadian Republic of Workers and Farmers. This is the only kind of social reconstruction that means a change in the conditions of the toilers in this country from economic servitude and political delusion to economic and political emancipation.

Imperialism and Economic Chaos!

The first world war drew thousands of Canadian toilers into its maw. Some were forced to go as an alternative to the starvation of unemployment. Some went under the influence of propaganda. All were told they were fighting a war against imperialism and autocracy, the victorious outcome of which would be followed by the end of all war, the destruction of imperialism, the beginning of reconstruction and higher living standards. Years of disillusionment have followed. Only a few months ago, through its agent, Lloyd George, British Imperialism had the audacity to try to embroil the workers of Canada in its imperialistic war-game of grabbing the Mosul oil wells. The invasion of the Ruhr is the outward renewal of the war for "democracy" now seen clearly to be a war for coke, iron ore and steel, for industrial supremacy to this or that group of capitalists. The lies of reconstruction have been exploded no less than the lies about ending imperialism and war. The European continent is in economic chaos. The speculative boom that America is supposed to be enjoying to-day is not based upon any fundamental reconstruction of world economics. As soon as stocks are replenished and the warehouses are filled again, out the workers will be thrown on the unemployment market.

Fascism and the Capitalist Offensive!

Alongside of this catastrophic breakdown of the capitalist system goes the menacing advance of facism, the most brutal form of the capitalist offensive. Capitalism has passed from soft promises of concessions to open terrorization. Wage reductions, open shop, unemployment and the like are not the only weapons the capitalists use to destroy the power of labor. They have a last card in facism which, ignoring even such guarantees of constitutionalism and parliamentarism as bourgeois democracy generally uses to conceal its workings, proceeds to burn trade union

halls, kill the militant workers, rape their women folk and establish an open Fascist Directorship to terrorize the masses into acquiescence. Nor need we consider ourselves miraculously exempt from the possibility of a developing fascist terror in the United States and Canada. America is the classic home of Pinkerton and Burns detectives, Palmer raids, Government injunctions, etc. In this country the Winnipeg strike was crushed by the joint efforts of the Government, Mounted Police, and last but not least, the bosses organized as the Citizens' Committee. That Citizens' Committee and others like it are ready to spring at the throat of labor at any time that labor rises vigorously to defend its interests. The intervention of militia and police in the coal struggles of Nova Scotia and Alberta is ominous. It is not for nothing that the Mounted Police are the darlings, not only of Sir Lomer Gouin but of King, Meighen and the whole capitalist class of the country. The criminal code still makes it possible for the Government to deport any active worker in the labor movement who does not happen to be born here. These are facts the workers must seriously ponder.

The United Front and Amalgamation !

What must the labor movement do to organize its defense? Labor is at present relatively weak and backward. Capitalism dictates its terms to us with but little resistance. The great task of the labor movement to-day is to get together into one United Front whether on the industrial or political field. Industrially, the most urgent need of our trade union movement is amalgamation. More and more trade unionists are agreeing that craft unionism must be scrapped in favor of union by industry. The advocates either of splitting tactics or of musty craft divisions inside the trade unions are being discredited by the facts every day. The splendid work of the Trade Union Educational League in connection with bringing the slogan of amalgamation to the fore deserves the support of every thinking and alert trade unionist. But the strengthening of the trade union movement through industrial consolidation, while absolutely necessary, is by itself not sufficient. The full fruits of industrial consolidation can be realized only if the amalgamating trade unions become the basis for the development of a real Labor Party of the masses.

The Labor Party and the Workers !

The Workers' Party stands for a Dominion-wide Labor Party. But what kind of Labor Party? There are officials in the trade union movement who want to continue the system of "lobbying" rather than have independent political action. We stand for independent political action on the part of the workers. There are other officials who don't mind a Labor Party so long as it can be kept a gentle electioneering machine. They would use it to get together just before elections so as to put some "labor representatives" into the Legislature and then these people would constitute themselves the "Labor Party." The Workers' Party is utterly opposed to such a conception of the Labor Party. Where would the masses who vote for the Labor Party come in? We stand for a Dominion-

wide Labor Party of class and mass struggle having its roots in a renovated trade union movement and with a machinery to make their elected representatives responsible to the masses who are the real Labor Party. The Workers' Party stands for such a Labor Party as will unite all of labor's forces for real political action—not merely for parliamentarism but for action of the organized masses politically and industrially to support and advance their class aims.

Rally to the Workers' Party

Comrades and Workers! if this is also your conception of the United Front, of the needs of the trade union movement and the Labor Party, then it is not enough to float along hoping that these things will come to pass somehow through the initiative of officials. Only a strongly organized party with a distinct program, clearly conscious of the class struggle, and the aims of labor, can give organized direction to the realization of these conceptions. The more rapidly every active worker sympathetic to our aims joins the Workers' Party, the more rapidly will the work of setting up the United Front and building a real Labor Party go ahead.

Working men and women join the Workers' Party! The party of the working class vanguard, the Party of Communism!

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Read—

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